

Hummingbird Celebration

*Come visit during peak
hummingbird migration!*

Saturday, July 30
10am to 4pm



 *Hummingbird banding stations*


 *Feeder care tips*

 *Gardening for hummingbirds*

 *Fledgling fun corner*

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Tupelo Times
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Tupelo Times

JUNE and JULY 2005

VOL. 1, NO. 1

The Newsletter of the **Cape Girardeau Conservation Campus** *Nature Center*

The Doors Are Open

Southeast Missouri Enters A New Era Of Conservation Education

As children and their parents begin to stream into open doors at the Cape Girardeau Conservation Campus Nature Center, a new chapter in the pages of conservation is written for southeast Missouri. On May 14 and 15 area residents will take part in the grand opening celebration of this newest facility. With a snip of the scissors, several years of planning, construction, and much anticipation will come to fruition as this new era in conservation education begins in southeast Missouri.

While similar to the other five nature center's the Missouri Department of Conservation has established, this one is unique in its focus on our southeast region's amazing natural and cultural history. The methods for engaging in this southeast story are numerous. School children will enjoy field trips designed specifically for their grade level, adults will experience new ways of participating in conservation activities, and conservation-related groups will hold informational meetings here. Educators of all types will find resource materials, lesson plans, and even check out Discovery Trunks. Volunteers will converge to help tend trails, answer phones, plant gardens, and give programs. Staff will answer nature-related questions and provide advice on participating in conservation activities.

Special programs will highlight fishing, archery, birding, landscaping for wildlife, investigating a marsh, and constructing bird nest boxes. Young or adult, each time visitors come to the Conservation Campus they will learn or experience something new. That acquired knowledge and experience will lead to stronger local conservation efforts and make southeast Missouri's natural and cultural history even more valuable.

The Conservation Campus features a 20,000 sq. ft. building with a 160-seat auditorium, three classrooms, an exhibit gallery, freshwater aquariums, a scientific research laboratory, two miles of trails traversing the White Oak Trace, a dynamic marsh along with loan equipment for kids-only fishing, native grass plantings, and wildflower gardens. The campus provides countless conservation wonders... you may be surprised by what you discover. Each discovery will be a line in this new chapter of southeast Missouri's conservation story. Southeast Missouri is an exceptional place, filled with natural wonders and conservation opportunities. Come learn more about it and get involved at the Cape Girardeau Conservation Campus – the doors are open!



Grand Opening!

May 14, 10am-5pm

10am Ribbon Cutting

May 15, 1-5pm



Meet the staff...

Maintenance

The maintenance staff at the nature center is the backbone of the facility. Please meet (*clockwise from top*) Roy Friedrich, Scott Morgan, Cordie Jones, Mary Campbell, Larry Morgan, and Mike Durham. They are the folks that keep the grounds mowed, gardens weeded, and the trails clear. They set up tables and chairs for programs and meetings, then take them back down and rearrange them for other activities. They clean aquariums, repair exhibits, vacuum carpets, mop floors, change light bulbs, wash windows, and keep bathrooms clean. They also manage the heating and cooling system to make sure everyone is comfortable. This crew not only maintains the nature center building and grounds but also takes care of maintenance and grounds issues at the southeast regional office next door. They have put in some extra back-breaking work to open the doors to the public this spring, but they are always up to the challenge. Please let them know how much they are appreciated.



WANTED

Apiary Manager (AKA Bee keeper)

The nature center has an indoor display bee hive. If you keep bees and would like to volunteer to manage this hive, please let us know!

Nature Center Volunteers

Do you enjoy helping others, teaching kids, or spending time outdoors? We need volunteers to answer phones, work in the naturesscaped gardens, give programs to youth and adults, and monitor trails along White Oak Trace. We will begin a new Nature Center Volunteer training class this fall. If you are interested in joining this special group of people, give us a call for more information.

Donations of Time, Material, and Service

Thank You

- Paul Corbin:** Native American artifacts and his cultural history knowledge for the exhibit gallery
- Ileen Hoskin:** Department of Conservation books and artifacts in memory of her husband and former MDC employee Al Hoskin
- John Sarff:** Original signed Charles Schwartz prints
- Mary Wilhite:** Roosting turkey mount
- Tim Lutz:** Trapping tools and a racoon mount
- John Jordan:** Muskrat for display
- Don Robinson:** Nutria for display
- Eric Heuring and family:** Elk hide for display
- Bob Gillespie:** Longbow on display
- Barb Stroder** and her **Woodland Jr. High 7th and 8th graders:** Lewis and Clark print
- Boy Scouts** and **Youth Conservation Corps** who constructed archery targets and nesting boxes

Cape Girardeau Conservation Campus Nature Center is located in North Cape Girardeau County Park off Kingshighway just east of Interstate 55 at exit 99. The building is open Tuesday through Saturday 8am to 5pm and Sunday noon to 5pm. and is closed Mondays, New Year's Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. The area is open daily from sunrise to 10pm in accordance with the Cape Girardeau County Park Rules and Regulations.

Nature center grounds and trails are closed to pets, horses, hunting, collecting, littering, fires, and alcoholic beverages. The trails are also closed to bicycles, jogging, in-line skates, skateboards, scooters, and motorized vehicles.

The Cape Girardeau Conservation Campus Nature Center is operated throughtgh hunting and fishing licence revenues and through the 1/8% "Design for Conservation" sales tax. There is no admission charge.
Phone: 573/290-5218; Fax: 573/290-5566; Internet: www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/cnc/cape

Educator's Niche

Special resources just for teachers and youth leaders

Are you looking for resources to use with your students that will capture their minds and help you teach more effectively? We have an Educator Resource Room designed just for you! Stop in at the front desk and ask to spend some time perusing curriculum, activities, posters, Discovery Trunks, and much more. If you call in advance, you may wish to set up a meeting with Bridget Jackson, the Conservation Education Consultant. She can assist developing curriculum and establishing outdoor classrooms, as well as offer in-services and workshops.

Upcoming Workshops!

Wild Answers for Wild Puzzles
Friday, June 24, 10am-6pm
Saturday, June 25, 8am-5pm

This credit course will look at key conservation concepts and how they relate to everday life. Participants will develop a greater awareness of Missouri's rich outdoors and wise use of limited resources. Participants will also receive "Project WILD" training.
Bridget Jackson: 573-290-5858, ext. 300 for more info.

The Nature Shop

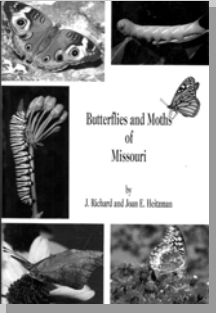
The Nature Shop features a variety of nature-related books, videos/DVDs, and resources designed for awareness and knowledge of conservation and the outdoors.

Special monthly discounts ... **20% Off**

JUNE

Butterflies and Moths of Missouri

Missouri has a wide variety of these cryptic and colorful creatures. This popular guide to butterflies and moths in Missouri includes 833 color photos and descriptions of 324 species. Range, habits, size, and status of each are included in the 385 pages. 1996



Discounted price: \$0 plus tax

JULY

Singing Insects of Missouri

Crickets, katydids, cicadas, and grasshoppers create the sounds of summer. This CD and poster will help you identify 20 common species of Missouri's "singing insects"



Discounted price:

Cassette \$0 plus tax
CD \$0 plus tax

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What aspects of nature and conservation interest you? _____
